



CALPEEK

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HOT POLITICAL ISSUES FOR THE 1992 CAMPAIGN.

Editor's note: Here is CALPEEK's list of the hot political issues and what impact they might have in Calif. in 1992...

● **THE ECONOMY** - Both nationally and in Calif., this is the HOTTEST issue for 1992. If the U.S. and Calif. are still in the midst of this deep recession, many insiders think it will hard for Pres. George Bush to win reelection, despite the advantages of incumbency. It also could be bad news for GOP U.S. Senate and U.S. House candidates, especially if they are TIED to Bush, such as appointed U.S. Sen. John Seymour(R)...

● **TAXES** - Next to the U.S. economy, taxes are the 2nd hottest issue. In 1991, voters in New Jersey routed the Demos in legislative contests because the Demos backed Gov. Jim Florio's very unpopular SALES TAX hike. Could that happen in Calif.?? Maybe. Remember, CA's new sales tax isn't very popular either. There is an attempt to repeal some of these taxes, with Demos taking the lead in this fight. They remember NJ...

...As for GOP Gov. Pete Wilson, he wants to eliminate the RENTERS TAX CREDIT in his 1992-93 budget. That's the same as a TAX hike for low and moderate income renters. This could backfire on Wilson...

...As for **PROPERTY TAXES**, remember that Prop. 13 is now before the U.S. Supreme Court. If a ruling declares key parts of Prop. 13 unconstitutional, lawmakers NOT backing legislation to keep property taxes LOW could be in SERIOUS TROUBLE...

● **WELFARE REFORM** - Gov. Wilson's plan to cut welfare spending in Calif. by imposing a 1-year residency requirement before full AFDC payments are made seems to have support. Will it become a hot issue in the 1992 election? Bet your first born, UNLESS

Demos defuse the issue with a sound alternative. So far, only Demo LG Leo McCarthy has heard the alarm. LMc agrees in part with Wilson, but offers an alternative plan that will reduce AFDC pay to the national average (\$383 per month instead of \$663). Under Pete's plan, new residents would get the same AFDC payment they got before they moved here. Wilson's plan might save more, but would be difficult to administer...

● **JOBS & TRADE** - The loss of a JOB or the FEAR of losing a job is a very hot issue, especially when combined with U.S. TRADE policies. It's an issue that isn't easy for the Bush Administration. And that's why Pres. Bush has been on the road this past week in Asia. Bottomline: if the Japanese don't open their markets, this may become the EXPLOSIVE issue of '92...

...In Calif., both Demos and GOP lawmakers are talking about priming the economic pump with public works/construction JOBS, financed by \$5-6 BILLION in new bonds. Problem: once the bonds are sold, government has to insure that JOBS go to U.S. firms. A huge battle is underway in L.A. County over a Transp. Commissions' decision to award the Norwalk-to-LAX Green Line railcar contract (worth \$121 million) to a Japanese company, when the U.S. firm had the LOWER bid...

● **WORKERS COMPENSATION** - This could be the hot legislative issue in 1992 if the Calif. lawmakers don't come up with some major reforms to reduce the skyrocketing cost of WC insurance premiums. Bringing new jobs to Calif. will be difficult if the business climate isn't improved. A positive note was sounded this past week when Demo W&M Chair John Vasconcellos pledged to take action in this area. We'll see...

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• OTHER ISSUES - Right now ABORTION is on the back burner, but it could get hot IF the Supreme Court overturns Roe V. Wade. ETHICS might be hot in some selected contests. Same with GAY RIGHTS and GUN CONTROL. The House vote on the GULF WAR also could be an issue, but now cuts two ways. For the time being, the economy and taxes are the two key issues. Stay tuned...

REMAPPING WARS: WEST L.A. GETTING READY FOR BIG TURF BATTLES BECAUSE OF NEW LINES.

Editor's note: Seems that insiders, regardless of political party, are fascinated by the political intrigue that often occurs in West L.A., where the rich & famous hobnob. Here is CALPEEK's report...

...REAPPORTIONMENT has really taken a toll on L.A.'s politically active Westside where Demos greatly outnumber Republicans. But in the new reapportioned districts, Demos have really been hurt. And the biggest HIT has been to the powerful West L.A. organization of U.S. Reps. Henry Waxman and Howard Berman...

...CONGRESS first. Before this new remap plan, there were 4 Westside seats. But under the new plan there is only 1 seat for the 3 remaining congressmen -- Waxman, Berman and Tony Beilenson, who is NOT allied with W-B, although they are "friendly"...

...The one Westside seat is the new 29th C.D., which runs from downtown to the sea. Waxman is a solid favorite if Beilenson disputes his claim to the 29th, but it would be bloody. As for Berman, he is running in the 26th C.D. in the San Fernando Valley, which takes in much of his old district...

...What will Beilenson do? Many think he will run in the new 24th C.D., which takes in part of Ventura County, runs along the coast and takes in much of the Valley. It is solid GOP turf, which is why Beilenson's perennial GOP opponent, Jim Salomon, is running against Assemblyman Tom McClintock in the GOP primary. McClintock is a favorite over Salomon. If Beilenson doesn't run in the 24th, L.A. Councilwoman Joy Picus will. Her council seat takes in most of the 24th. L.A. Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky is also looking. A strong Demo might win the 24th, but holding it would be difficult...

...STATE SENATE. As CALPEEK reported last

week, Senate Pres. David Roberti(D) is the guy who really got shafted by the Masters. He doesn't have a district, which is why he is polling in the OPEN 20th S.D. (Valley) and the Westside's 23rd S.D. W-B member, State Sen. Herschel Rosenthal, is all set for this district, but again there could be a civil war if Roberti runs. But most insiders think Roberti's PRO-life stance won't go over well in the 23rd, which is why insiders feel Demo Assemblyman Tom Hayden of Santa Monica will instead be the key Rosenthal opponent. A Rosenthal vs. Hayden match would be WWII and it looks as though this battle may happen...

...STATE ASSEMBLY. New Assemblywoman Barbara Friedman seems safe in the new 45th A.D., which takes in much of her old turf; and veteran Burt Margolin will be at home in the 42nd A.D.(which used to belong to Burt's friend, Terry Friedman). So what about Terry?? Before Hayden began looking at the State senate, W-B strategists wanted Terry to challenge Hayden. With Hayden looking at the 23rd S.D., Terry could win the 41st A.D. primary. The general would be tougher if former Santa Monica councilwoman Christine Reed(R) runs. Reed's possible entry is what forced Hayden to look elsewhere. Sources say Friedman is also looking at the OPEN 20th S.D., but insiders fear a Roberti vs. Friedman contest, combined with Rosenthal vs. Hayden, could stretch resources to the breaking point...

...If W-B can't talk Terry Friedman into running for the 41st A.D., it will be that old game of musical chairs, with Terry going back to the 42nd, Margolin to the 45th and Barbara Friedman looking hard at a contest in the 43rd A.D. That district is just north of the 45th and has a 42% GOP vs. 47% Demo registration. Conservative Pat Nolan rules the turf, but if he gets HIT on the FBI sting enough times he could be defeated. B. Friedman's Atwater home is in the 43rd, so she's no carpetbagger. Sources say consultant Michael Berman has crunched the numbers and a win over Nolan would be tough, but possible. Northern Calif. next week...

CALPEEK'S CONSULTANTS DIRECTORY ON SALE.

The 1991-92 edition of CALPEEK's Directory of Campaign Consultants is now on sale. The cost is \$15 for subscribers and \$40 for non-subscribers. CA sales tax included.

L.A. CITY ATTY. HAHN AT L.A. AFFAIRS FORUM.

L.A. City Atty. Jim Hahn will discuss the "State of the City: A Legal Overview," when he addresses the L.A. Current Affairs Forum, 11:30 a.m. reception, 12 noon lunch, Jan. 23 at L.A. Dept. of Water & Power offices, 111 N. Hope St. (Portland/San Francisco Rooms). For info and RSVPs, contact Emma Schafer (310)445-8862...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: COMMITTEES RUSH TO QUALIFY BALLOT MEASURES FOR NOVEMBER 1992.

Editor's note: Here is an update on 1992 initiative proposals which have been given the OK to collect signatures in order to qualify for the November 1992 ballot. In order to allow sufficient time for random sample signature verification, all these committees are urged to turn in signatures no later than Apr. 17...

- "HEALTH CARE PLAN" is the official title of a statute submitted by proponent Michael Weinstein (213)462-2273. CALPEEK has written about this before, but briefly the proposal says that the State shall provide health care to all residents of Calif. Weinstein has until May 1 to submit 384,974 signatures...

- "HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION," is the official title of a statute initiative by proponent Nancy Ott of S.F. (415)864-8812. This is basically your AB 101 law in initiative form. Ott needs to collect 384,974 signatures by May 4 to qualify...

- "EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION," is the official title of yet another AB 101-type initiative. The proponent is Matthew A. Coles of Berkeley. The Coles initiative eliminates HOUSING from this measure, otherwise it is the same as the previous initiative by Ott. Coles has until May 4 to collect 384,974 signatures...

- "STATE BAR. ELECTED COMMISSIONER. ATTORNEYS," is the official title of an initiative statute by Ronald S. Prince of Tustin. If approved, it would abolish the CA State Bar Bd. of Governors (to be replaced with an elected Commissioner); and would require every active member of the State Bar to be reexamined every 4 years. Prince has until May 18 to submit 384,974 valid signatures...

RECALL UPDATE: WILSON RECALL LOOKS GRIM.

Editor's note: Here is a brief update on some recent RECALL activity around Calif.

- GOV. WILSON RECALL - Insiders tell CALPEEK that the grassroots, under-financed effort to recall Gov. Pete Wilson probably will fall way short of the necessary 1.2 million signatures needed to qualify. The Sacto-based drive had hoped that public employee unions might help fund the effort during the last 4 weeks, but the money just wasn't there. The recall proponents have until Jan. 16 to turn in signatures...

- HUNTER/ALPERT RECALL - Sec. of State's office has given the go-ahead to two groups in San Diego seeking to oust Assemblywomen Dede Alpert(D) and Tricia Hunter(R). The Alpert recall group has until May 21 to collect 25,284 signatures, while the Hunter recall group needs to gather 29,407 names by that same date...

- JUDGE KARLIN RECALL - An effort to recall L.A. Co. Sup. Judge Joyce Karlin and L.A. Co. Presiding Judge Ricardo Torres has been launched by Compton Councilwoman Patricia Moore. The recall is in response to Judge Karlin's ruling not to send a Korean grocery store clerk to prison for the Mar. 16 shooting death of a black teenager. The judge's decision has sparked repeated demonstrations at the Compton courthouse by black activists who want Karlin off the bench. Torres was tagged for recall because he backed Karlin when L.A. DA Ira Reiner demanded that she be blocked from trying criminal cases. This is one of the more STUPID recalls in recent memory because Karlin must face voters anyway this coming JUNE. Resources which could be used to beat her then, will be wasted on this effort. Karlin has retained Cerrell Associates as campaign consultants. Sources say that anti-Karlin forces are trying to recruit a black female muni court judge or court commissioner to oppose Karlin. So far no luck. Stay tuned, because this race will get HOTTER...

TO CALPEEK SUBSCRIBERS: CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

If you're planning to move or have already done so, PLEASE send CALPEEK a change of address memo/notice/letter WITH your current CALPEEK mailing label. The label contains a code which makes it easy to quickly process the change of address. Thanks...

POKER CLUB MAKES BALLOT IN BALDWIN PARK.

Editor's note: As proponents have learned over the years, it's not easy to win passage of an initiative allowing the operation of CARD CLUBS, but backers keep on trying. The latest attempt to authorize a poker club will take place in Baldwin Park. Here is CALPEEK's brief report...

...This eastern L.A. County city of 69,000 is facing some tough economic times. So last summer a citizens' committee recommended that the city council consider legalizing a POKER CLUB, similar to clubs in Gardena, Bell Gardens and Commerce. But the council, on a 3-2 vote, balked at this idea. However, Councilman Herschel Keyser felt the plan was sound and told colleagues he would collect signatures for a ballot measure. Late last year Keyser approached the council and said he had collected about 1,250 signatures (out of 1,500 needed) and asked that an initiative be placed on the April 14 ballot. Rather than spend extra funds on a special election, one of 3 councilmembers opposed to the card club voted with Keyser and Mayor Bette Lowes to place Measure A on the spring city ballot. And that's where it stands...

...Both Keyser and Lowes, along with Councilman Martin Gallegos, are up for reelection Apr. 14. Gallegos was the 3rd vote to put the measure on the ballot, but is very much OPPOSED to a poker club. He wrote the ballot argument against #A. FYI: As far as CALPEEK can determine, there are no pros on either side as yet. Stay tuned...

HEARING TO REPEAL SALES TAX ON MAZAGINES.

The Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee has scheduled a public hearing and vote on Jan. 15 for SB 267, a bill which would repeal the CA sales tax on magazines and periodicals, including CALPEEK. The bill's author is State Sen. Quentin Kopp(I-S.F.). CALPEEK sources believe the bill is one vote shy of a majority. State Sen. Wadie Deddeh (D-Chula Vista) is the cmt. chair. Demos who are said to be undecided include Boatwright, Bill Greene, Lockyer and Rosenthal. FYI: Sources believe that about 75% of all the taxes approved in 1991 will be repealed by either legislative action or by the initiative process...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- George Dunn, after 9 yrs. with ARCO as mgr. of govt. relations, becomes Gov. Pete Wilson's new deputy chief of staff. The gang at ARCO gave Dunn a Quayle/Wilson '96 t-shirt as a going away present...

- Laura Olhasso has left Burbank-based The Wessell Co. after more than 6 yrs. The former VP is undecided on future plans...

- S.F.-based Kamer/Singer & Associates has been hired by NV Gov. Bob Miller to handle communications for the State's Nuclear Waste Project Office...

- Rex E. Lee, former U.S. solicitor general, has been hired by L.A. County to represent and assist the county counsel in defense of Prop. 13 before the U.S. Supreme Court...The U.S. Justice Foundation based in Escondido has formed a special Prop. 13 legal task force to defend the measure and says it intends to file an amicus curiae brief with the high court...

- Campaign consultants Joe Cerrell and Bob Nelson will co-chair the 24th annual meeting of the Internat'l Assn. of Political Consultants (IAPC) meeting in L.A. in November of 1992...

- One of L.A.'s better political reporters, Warren Olney, resigned his job with KCOP-TV News Dec. 20. No future plans as yet...

MARKETPLACE NETWORK

- CAMPAIGN COORDINATORS NEEDED. Rep. and Dem. Experience necessary. Southern California. Send resumes to: Adler Wilson Campaign Services, 23332 Mill Creek Drive, #155, Laguna Hills, CA 92653...

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